Report of Economic Advisory Council on Productive Employment

*116. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic Advisory Council has submitted its interim report, suggesting a strategy for generating productive employment, supported by the growth of labour-intensive manufactured exports;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the report; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to each of the suggestions and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) to (c) The Economic Advisory Council has in its Interim Report reocmmended a strategy in which agriculture plays a major role in generating productive employment, supported by the growth of labour intensive manufactured exports; the role of large industrial sector is to provide efficiently produced, low cost tools and intermediates based on which a higher level labour productivity can be reached in the economy as a whole without generating additional pressure on balance of payments or prices. According to the Report, the major objective of the policies in the present decade should be, among other things, expansion of production in agro-based industries, improvement in the efficiency of the use of fertiliser and water in agriculture and energy in the whole economy, a strategy for wider dispersal of small scale industries and improvement in their efficiency, laying down priorities in technology upgradation and modernisation in terms of capital goods, intermediate goods, infrastructure and consumer goods, improvement in the provision and spread of infrastructure and basic industries along with improvement in quality of services and reduced costs, maintaining the tempo of growth in exports, promotion of greater competitiveness of Indian exports and restructuring of industrial investment in favour of efficient export earning sectors like garments, leather manufactures and agro-based items so as to help in reducing the import intensity of exports and promote further industrial employment.

The Eighth Plan, the Approach to which is under finalisation and which envisages employment to be the central thrust of development strategy, would take note of the suggestions made in the Interim Report.

Steps for keeping Delhi Pollution Free

*117. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board is spending huge amounts to keep Delhi Pollution free as compared to other cities in the country; yet Delhi is considered to be one of the worest polluted cities in the world;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps to keep Delhi pollution free; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board, in addition to its overall coordinating role for the country, also functions as the State Pollution Control Board for the Union Territories, which includes Delhi. The role of the State Pollution Control Boards in their respective jurisdictions is to notify, monitor and enforce standards under the pollution control legislation. The execution of pollution control measures is the responsibility of the polluting units. The industrial units and the municipal bodies which discharge pollutants have to arrange their own resources

to install pollution control devices in order to comply with the directions given in the consent conditions issued by the Pollution Control Boards. The expenditure of the Pollution Control Boards is towards their regulatory responsibilities. It will not be possible to determine this expenditure separately for cities, including Delhi. On the basis of assessment for the five years (1980—1984) of annual average values of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) monitored under the WHO Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) programme in 41 cities of the world, Delhi ranked the fourth city in the world with an annual SPM average from 400 to 550 g/m3 while the ambient average SPM value should be 500 µg|m3. The natural dust level in the ambient air of Delhi and emissions from industrial activities including thermal power plants and vehicular traffic are the major causes for this pollution. In regard to other parameters of air pollution *i.e.* sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitorgen, Delhi's ambient air quality is within prescribed standards.

(c) and (d) To control pollution standards for emissions and effluents have been notified for all major categories of industries. The standards for vehicular emissions are being implemented from March 1, 1990. All the thermal power plants in Delhi now have high efficiency electrostatic precipitator except Unit No. 3 of Badarpur where the work is in progress.

Damage of the Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh due to Fires

*118. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports which appeared in the Times of India dated the 23rd April 1990 to the effect that terrorists have seized parts of the Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh and unleashed a region of terror among the forest guards;

(b) whether it is a fact that about 70 per cent of the forest in this area has been burnt down by fires; if so, what was the number of birds and animals which have been killed; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to prevent damage to the Kanha National Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The news item in Times of India of 23rd April, 1990 has come to the notice of the Government. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that the statement that terrorists have seized parts of Kanha National Park and unleashed a region of terror upon Forest Guards is not correct. Naxalities are, however, reported to have entered the Park and beaten up one forester and a forest guard inside the Park, besides intimidation of some staff. According to the State Government about 45 per cent of forest area has been affected by surface fires in which grasses and dry fallen material have been burnt. No deaths of birds and animals due to fires have been reported.

(c) The State Government has informed that following steps have been taken to prevent damage to the Kanha National Park:

(i) Four patrolling parties consisting of forest staff and armed police will do intensive patrolling of the Park.

police officers have been directed to flush out all naxalities.

(iii) A committee of high officials will tour bordering villages to rectify grievances of villagers and forest staff.

पुस्तक प्रकाशन के क्षेत्र में भारत की स्थिति

*119. श्री कपिलदेव वर्मा
श्रीमती वीणा :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पुस्तक प्रकाशन के क्षेत्र में विश्व में सातवें स्थान